

इजारेदार घरानों की संपत्ति में इस बेरीकटोक की वृद्धि के बावजूद सरकार के कानून एवं कंपनी मंत्री श्री जगन्नाथ कौशल ने राज्य सभा में दावा किया है—

“There is controlled growth and that there is on concentration of economic power to the detriment of common man.”

ऊपर के बोलते हुए तथ्य श्री कौशल के दावे को पूर्णतः झूठला देते हैं। उनका उक्त कथन तब सत्य होता जब इजारेदार घरानों की संपत्ति में ह्रास होता और आम मेहनतकश आवाम की स्थिति में कोई उल्लेखनीय प्रगति होती।

विधेयक में गलत व्यापारिक व्यवहारों को रोकने के लिए जो उपबंध किए हैं, वे स्वागतयोग्य हैं। अपराधियों की सजा में वृद्धि करने की जो व्यवस्था है, वह ठीक है। अपितु, उसे और कठोर बनाने की आवश्यकता है। परन्तु सबसे बड़ा प्रश्न है इन व्यवस्थाओं को सख्ती के साथ लागू करने की जिसके साथ प्रश्न चिन्ह जुड़ा हुआ है।

समय की मांग है कि इजारेदार घरानों की संपत्ति का पूरी तरह से राष्ट्रीयकरण कर उनके हाथों से आर्थिक शक्ति छीन कर जनता के हाथों सुपुर्द कर दी जाए।

SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL : So far as Shri Chintamani Panigrani is concerned, he does not want me to give any reply. He only wants his speech to be noted and it has been noted.

So far as Shri Ramavatar Shastri is concerned, I am afraid he has not made any new points. All these points have been made by other Hon. members.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

17.55 hrs.

VISVA-BHARATI (AMENDMENT BILLS)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : Sir, I beg to move :

“That the Bill further to amend the Visva-Bharati Act, 1951, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

The present Bill is the one on which the Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament has laboured hard for a good length of time to review its contents so as to incorporate therein the ideals of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. This Committee has done an excellent job and produced a Bill which has inducted a number of new ideas and thoughts in keeping with the ideals of the great founder of the institution. The report of the Committee was, by and large, welcomed and supported by Rajya Sabha and the Bill as recommended by the Committee was adopted by the Rajya Sabha without any change. I would take this opportunity to put on record my appreciation of the work done by the members of the Committee and to congratulate them on the fine report they produced.

To refresh the memory of the Hon. Members, I may be permitted to indicate briefly the background leading to the introduction of this Bill in the Rajya Sabha in March, 1978.

Visva-Bharati, a renowned institution founded by Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, was declared as an institution of national importance and also incorporated as a unitary, teaching

and residential University by an Act of Parliament enacted in 1951. While incorporating Visva-Bharati as a University, Government's firm intention was that every effort will be made to preserve and promote the unique character and ideas for which the great institution was established by the Gurudev. However, over the years the Visva-Bharati has continued to function develop on the lines not very different from those of other Universities in the country. Not only that, there were disturbances in the University Campus during 1970-71 which led to arson, stabbing, damage to University equipment and property and even death of an office Superintendent. The University had to face serious difficulties in its day-to-day working on account of the negative attitude adopted by certain persons. All this had vitiated the academic life of the University. To remedy the situation, at that time, the Visva-Bharati Act had to be amended through a Presidential Ordinance, later replaced by an Act of Parliament, in November, 1971. This was done purely as an interim measure and the comprehensive legislation was to follow.

Later on, complaints were also received by Government that Visva-Bharati was drifting away from the ideals Gurudev had in mind in setting it up and that the academic standards were going down. Disturbed at these developments and anxious to ensure the restoration of the original character of the University, Government appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice S.A. Masud, ex-judge of the Calcutta High Court, and eight other members, to determine the lines on which the Visva-Bharati may be developed and to recommend the guidelines for amendment of the University Act. The Masud Committee had submitted its report in July, 1975.

The Masud Committee report was deeply studied by the Ministry of Education, and mainly based on the recommendations of this Committee, an Amendment Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in March, 1978, and

referred to a Joint Committee. The Joint Committee was reconstituted in 1980 after the Lok Sabha elections when the Congress Government came back to power.

I am happy to say that the Joint Committee has made both extensive and intensive study of the Amendment Bill and have taken oral evidence of a large number of eminent persons connected with and interested in Visva-Bharati. The Committee also received a large number of memoranda containing suggestions on the Bill. It was after prolonged deliberations that the Committee presented its report to the Parliament in August, 1983.

One of the important changes made by the Joint Committee is that the Patha-Bhavana will have the same status and powers as those of other Bhavanas of the University. The second important change made is that the objects of the University have been incorporated in the body of the Act in a comprehensive manner. The Joint Committee has also recommended that a specific duty may be devolved on the University to give effect to the idea of Tagore on the pattern of education, in organising its activities and in implementing its academic programmes.

The Joint Committee has further recommended provision of three whole-time Directors.....

MR. CHAIMAN : How much more time would you take—because we have got an half-an-hour discussion at six.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL
have only three more pages.....

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Let her continue tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, you can continue tomorrow.